

#3270
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RW
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicant : Stephen N. Vaughn
Serial No. : 08/943,399
Filed : 10/3/97
Title : Method for Increasing Light Olefin Yield by Conversion of a Heavy
Hydrocarbon Fraction of a Product to Light Olefins
Docket : 97B058/3
Examiner : Walter D. Griffin
Group Art Unit : 1764

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 26, 2001, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 are being filed concurrently herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

41. (Three Times Amended) A method of increasing ethylene yield during conversion of oxygenates to olefins comprising:

E1 (a) contacting a feed including an oxygenate in a primary reactor with a small pore non-zeolitic molecular sieve catalyst under first conditions effective to produce a first product including ethylene and a heavy hydrocarbon fraction including heavy hydrocarbons;

(b) separating the ethylene from the heavy hydrocarbon fraction;

(c) feeding at least a portion of said heavy hydrocarbon fraction to said primary reactor;

and